

City of Harrisonburg Electoral Board Minutes
Monday, September 23, 2024

1. Call to Order: The Meeting was called to Order at 9:01 AM.
2. Welcome and Introduction: Ms. Pat Haden-Chair of Harrisonburg Republican Committee
3. Approval of Agenda: All voted in favor of approval.
4. Approval of Minutes: All voted in favor to approve Minutes of September 9, 2024.
5. Report from Director of Elections:
 1. There was no written report from the General Registrar in our packet this morning. Mark and his staff have been very busy with Early Voting, which began on Friday, September 20, 2024. Early voting produced 310 voters on Friday, as well as an additional 10 voters this morning for a total of 320. New PollPads worked well. In past years it took around 30 minutes to get PollBooks and printers up and running. This new equipment cut that time down to 10 Minutes. There was a snag with the printers the first day, but that issue was resolved by unplugging and re-plugging the same. In addition to more traffic at the Voter's Registration Window, he and his staff emailed around 80 plus ballots to persons working, living, or serving overseas, plus 8 to 900 ballots requested were mailed through the USPS. The Registrar's office has seen an up-take in voter registrations. The total number of voters for City of Harrisonburg is 25,575. This count is up from the previous report of 25,515. Mark and his staff have also seen more people moving their registration to other cities, etc. Keeping numbers pretty consistent.
 2. PrintElect Cages: All cages have been received. Everything had to be moved out of the closet down stairs. Some shelves were given away, the Minutes' file cabinet was moved to the secure closet, as previously reported, and other files have been moved to the closet in the Registrar's Office.
 3. The General Registrar finished up his speaking engagements with various organizations. He was at JMU on Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 11:00 – 12:30. This event was lightly attended, and only one registration was taken during this time. He and his staff held Voter Registration at several locations during the months of August and September.
6. The General Registrar asked the Members of the Board of Elections about using one of the newly received cages to hold the Early Voting Equipment during the 45-day period. All Members voted in favor of using the cage in the Atrium, with advice from HPD as to whether a lock and/or cord system would be used.
7. All Members of the Board approved the Officer of Elections Applicants presented to them on September 9, 2024. The list that was presented today, will be voted on at our next scheduled EB meeting. A copy of this list will be given to both the Democrat and Republican Committee Chairs.
8. New Business: Co-Chair, Ms. Jane Burner, wanted to clarify what was going on in front of the City Hall Building. She and the Chair, Mr. Bill Call, had inquiries from persons asking why there were no candidate signs, and why the parties were not allowed to bring seating for those who are impaired and not able to stand for more than a few minutes at a time. The General Registrar said that anyone blocking the sidewalk or the curb side voting access would have to comply with State Regulations and Federal Regulations. He also said that the City Managers would like to adopt a policy for no signage on City Property. He has a scheduled meeting with the City Manager and he was asked by the Chair, to get a statement from the City Manager, concerning the placement of signage and seating.

9. Unfinished Business: None
10. Public Comment: Ms. Pat Haden informed the General Registrar and the members of the Electoral Board that she has no problem with the signage and seating at the Atrium Entrance. She said that as Committee Chair, she does not have enough volunteers to hand out sample ballots all of the time, and would like to leave an unmanned chair for voters as they enter the front entrance of City Hall.
11. At 9:47 AM a: **Motion for Closed Session to discuss Personnel matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A) Of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to discuss personnel matters, and if needed to discuss Election Security practices pursuant to Section 24.2-410.2 Of the Code of Virginia. Call – Yes, Burner – Yes, Sanders – Yes.**
12. At 10:30 AM **Return to Public Session, certification of Closed Session by roll call vote. Statement: To the best knowledge of each member of this Board (i) only public business matters lawfully excepted from the open meeting requirements of Chapter 37 (Virginia Freedom of Information act) of Title 2.2 Of the Code of Virginia and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which today’s executive session was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the closed session. Call – Yes, Burner – Yes, Sanders – Yes.**
13. Adjournment: The Meeting was adjourned at 10:53 AM

The next scheduled meeting of the Electoral Board is Monday, October 7, 2024 @ 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Ramona N. Sanders, Secretary of City of Harrisonburg Electoral Board Monday, September 23, 2024.